The Truth Teller.

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Tell the Truth: The Truth will tell. Truth will prevail, and never fail.

GRANVILLE HEDRICK, PUBLISHED BY THE CHURCH.

The Truth Teller—*Will advocate the Primitive Organization of the Church of Jesus Christ (of Latter Day Saints,) which was organized on the 6th day of April, 1830, and maintain the Divinity of the Bible and Book of Mormon, and Also that Joseph Smith was one a great and true Prophet of God.*

SECTION TWENTY-TWO.

Continued from Vol. 2., No. 1, page 16.

except the tusk and the tail. Two more resemble the tiger. Besides these were several human representations of men and women, clothed not as the Indians but much in the costume of Greece and Rome.

All human sciences flourished among the Egyptians long before they were common to any other people. The Grecians in the days of Solon, about 600 B. C.; Pythagoras, about the same time; Herodotus, about 450 B. C., and Plato a little later, acquired in Egypt all that knowledge of nature which rendered them so eminent and remarkable. But the Egyptian priests did not divulge their doctrines, but by the aid of signs and figurative emblems. Their manner was to discover to their auditors the mysteries of God and nature in hieroglyphics, which were certain visible shapes and forms of creatures, unlike in dissimilitude and dissemblance to the knowledge of the truths intended for instruction. All their divinity, philosophy, and their greatest secrets, were comprehended in these figurative characters. The hieroglyphics carved in this cave, which represent a child holding or leading a panther, bring forcibly to the mind a similar idea in the Hebrew scriptures, in the book of Isaiah, chapter 11th, 6th verse, where it is said, 'the wolf, the leopard and the young lion shall be led by a child,' and relates to the period when both natural and moral evil shall have no existence in the earth, as is believed by some. The Egyptians brought with them the writings of Malan, in which, it appears, there are sketched the figures of several animals, now or not, among which are three, much resembling the elephant, the tail and tusks excepted. It would be passing the bounds of credulity to suppose the artists who delineated those figures, would represent no less than eight animals, differing in their conformation, one from the other, which all in reality no being, and such as these had never been seen. We suppose the animals resembling the elephant, to have been the mammoth, and that those ancients were well acquainted with the creature, or they could never have engraved it on the rock. From American Antiquities, by Josiah Priest, pages 104 to 121.

It is stated in the foregoing quotations that many of the sciences flourished among the Egyptians at an early period, when Solon and Pythagoras, 600

years before Christ, acquired that remarkable knowledge from the Egyptians which rendered them so conspicuous in the world.

It is also stated in the Book of Mormon that Lehi and Nephi, the leaders and founders of a colony of Israelites upon the Western Continent, who left Jerusalem 600 years before Christ, (first book of Nephi, chapter 5, par. 47,) and were taught in the learning of the Egyptians and also the Jews; might they have not been as wise as Solon and Pythagoras; and if renowned Greece and Rome received their knowledge of letters, architecture sculpture and other costumes from Egypt; which is affirmed by historians, then why not a colony of educated Israelites from Jerusalem taught also in the lore of the Egyptians and learning of the Jews, be able to construct similar works of art in America, and stamp their monuments and edifices, with their mysterious hieroglyphics, which have spread nearly over the entire continent, and are generally supposed to bear a foreign resemblance. Hence, the origin of some of those antiquities may then be traced back to Egypt through the Book of Mormon in a direct line, which is in accordance with the most reliable history of the American antiquities. See Book of Mormon, in the first book of Nephi, chapter 1, par. 1., where Nephi says, "I make a record in the language of my father, which consists of the learning of the Jews, and the language of the Egyptians," and again in the book of Mosiah it is said, in chapter 1, par. 1., "For it were not possible that our father Lehi could have remembered all these things, to have taught them to his children, except it were for the help of these plates; for he having been taught in the *language* of the *Egyptians*, therefore, he could read these engravings, and teach them to his children." Hence, it may be seen according to the Book of Mormon that a knowledge of the Egyptian language of hieroglyphics was brought to America, nearly 600 years before Christ, which may account for the numerous hieroglyphical characters found among the American antiquities.

The Book of Mormon gives an account of quite a number of domestic animals found by the Nephites upon the American Continent; first book of Nephi, chapter 5, par. 45, "And it came to pass that we did find upon the land of promise, as we journeyed in the wilderness, that there were beasts in the forests of every kind, both the cow and the ox, and the ass and the horse, and the goat and the wild goat, and all manner of wild animals, which were for the use of men." And again the Book of Mormon says they had "all manner of cattle, of oxen and cows, and of sheep, and of swine, and of goats, and, also, many other kind of animals, which were useful for the food of man; and they also had *horses* and *asses*, and there were *elephants* and *cureloms* and *cumoms;* all of which were useful unto man, and more especially the elephants and cureloms, and cumoms." See Book of Ether, 4th chapter, 3rd par.

Hence, the Book of Mormon shows that there were a variety of useful animals formerly in possession of the aboriginal inhabitants of America. It is a very remarkable coincidence, of the circumstance of there being found engraved upon the rock in the cave, those three animals much resembling the elephant, so wonderfully concurring with the account of the elephants, cureloms and cumoms described in the Book of Mormon. It should be remembered that the *American Antiquities*, by Priest, were first published in 1838, three years after the first publication of the Book of Mormon. The fact that those singular animals once existed, though now extinct, is fully demonstrated by the numerous fossil remains of bones and even whole skeletons that have been discovered in many parts of the continent in both North and South America. In presenting the fossil remains and other indications of those animals; that of the horse will also be included, showing that the horse was a native of this continent long anterior to the discovery of America by the Europeans.

The Mastodon or Mammoth, from the

American Antiquities." "Whoever has examined the skeleton of one of those animals, now in the Philadelphia museum, will acknowledge the bones are equal to bars of brass or iron. Its height over the shoulders, eleven feet; from the point of the nose to the end of the tail, following the exterior or curve, is twenty one feet; a single tooth weighs four pounds ten ounces. The rib bones are six inches in width, and in thickness three; the whole skeleton as it is, with the exception of a few bones, weighs one thousand pounds." This skeleton, in Peale's museum, is one out of nine skeletons of this monster, which were dug out of the earth in the neighborhood of the Shongum Mountain, in Ulster county on the Southwestern side of the State of New York, eight of which were sent to Europe, (see Spafford's Gazetteer of New York.) Near Rochester, in the State of New York, in 1833, two teeth of this animal were discovered but a small depth beneath the surface. They were found in the town of Perrinton, near Fullam's Basin, by Mr. William Mann, who was engaged in digging up a stump. They were deposited about four feet below the surface of the earth. These were in a tolerably good state of preservation; the roots began to crumble a little, but the enamel of the teeth is in almost a perfect state. The teeth were the grinders, and from their appearance were located in the back part of the upper jaw. The largest one weighed three pounds ten ounces, measuring six inches lengthwise of the jaw, and three inches across the top, the root is about six inches long with several prongs. The other tooth is smaller. * * Dr. Adam Clark mentions, in his commentary on the subject of this animal, denominated behemoth in Job, 40th chapter, 15th verse, that he had weighed one of the very smallest grinders of an animal of this supposed extinct race, and found it, in its very dry state, to weigh four pounds eight ounces; the same grinder of an elephant, says Dr. Clark, I have weighed also, and find it but two pounds. The mammoth, therefore, continues this great author, from this proportion must have been as large as two elephants and a quarter." American Antiquities, pages 145 to 147. In the vicinity of May's Lick, on Salt Spring, in the State of Kentucky, on the account of its saline substances formerly attracted the animals of the forest in those marshes which are usual in such places, where the frames of those large animals are often found sunk in the mire. American Antiquities, page 148.

"In the State of Missouri, near White river and Strawberry river, are certain ranges of mountains, at whose base, in a certain spot, are found large quantities of these bones gathered in a small compass." American Antiquities, page 148. Also, see Beck's Gazetteer of Illinois and Missouri, page 332.

"At St. Helen's point, North of Guayaquil, in the Republic of Columbia, South America, on the coast of the Pacific, on the equator are found the enormous remains of this animal." Also, "at New Grenada, in the same province, and on the ridge of the Mexican Cordilleras, vast quantities of the remains of this huge beast are found.—[Humbolt's Researches in South America."]—From American Antiquities, page 149.

"A Mr. Stanley, taken prisoner by the Indians near the mouth of the Tennessee river, relates that after being transferred through several tribes, was at length carried over the mountains West of the Missouri, to a river which runs westwardly; that these bones abounded there."—American Antiquities, page 150.

Mr. Mayer, in quoting another author, says, "Latrobe, at page 144, of his rambles in Mexico, relates that some workmen in excavating for a canal at Chapingo, (a hacienda near Tezcoco,) reached at the distance of four feet below the surface, an ancient causeway, of the existence of which there had not been the remotest suspicion. The cedar piles by which the sides were supported were still sound at heart; and three feet below the edge of this ancient work they struck upon the entire skeleton of a Mastodon

imbeded in blue clay. The diameter of the tusk was eighteen inches. Wherever extensive excavations have been made on the table-land and in the valley, of late years, remains of this animal have almost always been met with. In the foundation of the church of Guadalupe—on the estate of St. Nicholas, four leagues to the South, and in Guadalaxara, portions of the skeleton have been discovered. Had the ancients some means of taming these beasts into laborers for their gigantic architecture?"—*Mayer's Mexico*, page 232.

What better evidence could be required to confirm the belief that some such large animals as the elephant or mastodon were employed in constructing that very causeway which over laid the skeleton of that large beast, that was found buried beneath the ruins of that ancient road. The Book of Mormon says the ancient inhabitants of America had "elephants, cureloms and cumoms all of which were useful unto man." Are not the terms Mastodon and Megalonyx only other names for the Cureloms and Cumoms. When Lehi and Nepei left Jerusalem 600 years B. C., and being educated in the learning of both the Egyptians and the Jews, they could not have failed to have had some knowledge of the elephant, which was known in that country; therefore, when they came to the New World and found the elephant or at least a species of animal that so closely resembled the elephant they would very readily have called it by the same name; but when they found other large animals different from the elephant, and unknown to them upon the Eastern continent, they would naturally have originated other names for those strange and newly discovered animals, and hence have called them Cureloms and Cumoms, as is translated in the Book of Mormon.

The following will show a large number of fossil bones, of the Mastodon, the Elephant, and other species of large animals once indigenous to this continent, indicating a period of their existence both before and after the great deluge, but chiefly since the flood.

"*Fossil Mammalia of the United States.* The extinct species of the higher orders of animals found fossil in the United States are Mastodon giganteum, Elephas primigenius, another Elephant (a tooth only being known, differing considerably from the tooth of either the living or fossil species,) Megatherium, Megalonyx, Bos Bombifrons, Bos Pallasii, Bos, latifrons, Cervus Americanus, or fossil Elk of Wistar and Malrus. Of living species also found fossil, we may enumerate the horse, the Bison, and three or four species of Deer. The situations in which these have been found have either very recent undisturbed alluvial bogs, or a slightly disturbed marshy deposit like Big Bone Lick, neither of them covered by the general diluvium; thirdly, boggy beds containing lignite referable to an ancient alluvium, covered by diluvial sand and gravel; and lastly, the floors of caves buried to a very small depth with earth not described. The largest collections of bone-remains occur in boggy grounds called Licks, affording salt, in quest of which the herbivorous animals, wild and domestic, enter the marshy spot and are sometimes mired. The most noted of these deposits is Big Bone Lick in Kentucky, occupying the bottom of a boggy valley kept wet by a number of salt-springs which rise over a surface of several acres.

The spot is thus described by Mr Cooper: "The substratum of the country is a fossiliferous limestone. At the Lick the valley is filled up to the depth of not less than thirty feet with unconsolidated beds of earth of various kinds. The uppermost of these is a light yellow clay, which apparently is no more than the soil brought down from the high grounds by rains and land-floods. In this yellow earth are found, along the water-courses at various depths, the bones of Buffaloes (Bison) and other modern animals, many broken, but often quite entire. Beneath this is another thinner layer of different soil, bearing the appearance of having been formerly the bottom of a marsh. It is more gravelly, darker colored, softer,

and contains remains of reedy plants, smaller than the cane so abundant in some parts of Kentucky. In this layer, and sometimes partially imbedded in a stratum of blue clay, very compact and tenacious, are deposited the bones of extinct species."

Mr. Cooper has been at the pains to compute, from the teeth and other parts known to have been removed from Big Bone Lick, the number of individuals requisite to furnish the specimens already carried off:—

Mastodon maximus,	100	individuals,
Elephas primigenius	20	"
Megalonyx Jeffersonii	1	"
Bos Bombifrons,	2	"
Bos Pallasii,	1	"
Cervus Americanus,	2	"

and it is probable that some still remain behind. "It is possible that the horse ought to be added to this list of animals once indigenous to America. During the early settlement of the country, the great bones were either lying on the surface of the ground, or so near it as to be obtained with very little labor." "The next most important kind of locality in which such remains are often found, is simply a soft bog or meadow, where most of the finest specimens known in this country have been obtained. As an example of the common condition in which the Mastodon is found, I may describe the situation of one disinterred in 1824, near the sea-coast of New Jersey, three miles from Long Branch. The proprietor of the farm, walking over a reclaimed marsh, observed something projecting through the turf, which he struck with his foot, and found to be a grinder tooth. Two other teeth, some pieces of the skull, the spine, the humeral, and other bones, were afterwards found. The soil around was a soft dark peat, full of vegetable fibres. Though the skull and many other bones had been removed before Messrs. Cooper, Dekay and Van Rensselaer examined the spot, they were able to behold the vertebral column with all the joints the ribs articulated to them, resting in their natural position, about eight or ten inches below the surface. The scapulæ both rested upon the heads of the humeri, and these, as in life, in a vertical position upon the bones of the fore-arm. The right fore-arm inclined a little backwards, and the foot immediately below was a little in advance of the other, in the attitude of walking. Ten inches below the surface was the sacrum, with the pelvis united, though decayed. The femora were close by, but lay in a position nearly horizontal, the right less than the left, and both at right angles with the spine. Both tibiæ each with its fibula, stood nearly erect in their natural place beneath the femora, and below them were the bones of the hinder feet in their places; no caudal vertebræ were seen. The marsh had been drained for three years, and the surface had in consequence been lowered about two feet, producing, it has been conjectured, the dislocated attitude of the thigh-bones. Beneath the peaty bed a sandy stratum was seen, and all the feet was noticed to be standing upon the top of this floor of the bog." "I have already described the nature of the beds in which the antediluvian Mastodon tooth was found at Fort McHenry, near Baltimore: and concerning the bed in which the cave specimens, the Megalonyx, &c., have been buried, I have no information sufficiently satisfactory to offer." In presenting the history of the fossil remains of those large animals that are spoken of in the Book of Mormon, which disappeared from this country before the European emigration, yet their bones still remain to testify of the truth of their once living existence: and while these important facts are furnishing such great weight of testimony in the support of the Book of Mormon, another important consideration is presented that should not be lost sight of, which also confirms Moses's account of the great deluge, for the wonderful depth that some of those fossil bones have been found, fully demonstrates that universal eruption of the earth, which points back with unmistakable certainty to the great flood recorded in the scriptures which confirms the divine authenticity of the Bible.

"*Localities of Fossil Mammalia.—Elephas Primigenius:* Big Bone Lick, Kentucky, the teeth especially in great numbers.—*Biggin Swamp*, in South Carolina, teeth eight or nine feet below the surface. (Drayton.)—Kentucky has furnished the greatest number of teeth, but South Carolina the largest collection of other parts of the skeleton. (Godman.)—Monmouth county, New Jersey. (Mitchell.)—Opelousas, West of the Mississippi, bones and teeth in recent alluvium. (See Durald in Ann. Phil. Trans, Vol. VI, page 55, also Darby in Mitchell's translation of Cuvier's Theory of the Earth.) Stone in Carolina, teeth. (Catesby.) Queen Anne county, Maryland, a grinder, differing considerably from the tooth either of the living or fossil species, in stiff blue clay by the side of a marsh."

"Mastodon Maximus: Big Bone Lick, Kentucky, in a dark-colored marsh, the upper stratum somewhat gravelly, the substratum a blue tenacious clay, both imbedding bones, over all a light yellow soil, brought apparently from the adjacent high grounds; all the larger bones broken as if by violent action."—Cooper.

"The remains of Mastodon are found indeed in nearly all the Western States, in bogs and soft meadows, uncovered by any diluvial stratum. White river, Indiana, upper jaw and teeth, (Mitchell.)—The marshes and bogs near the Wallkill, West of the Hudson, New York. This vicinity yielded the first and finest skeleton yet procured, viz: the magnificient specimen in Philadelphia Museum, (Peale.) Also on the North Holston, a branch of the Tennessee river. Carolina, bones, &c., in a morass like the rest. (Jefferson's Noteson Virginia.)

"Again, in Wythe county, Virginia, at five feet below the surface, near a salt-lick, a large number of bones, almost an entire skeleton, was found, said to have been accompanied by a mass of triturated branches, leaves, &c., enveloped in a sac, supposed to be the stomach not however correctly. (See Godman's Nat. History.) Chester, Orange county New York, in a peat bog, four feet beneath the surface, many fine fragments. (Mitchell.)—On the York river, some fine members of a skeleton were found, in marsh mud, surrounded by roots of cypress trees. (Madison, Medical Repository.) On the coast of New Jersey, near Longbranch, in a bog, almost an entire skeleton, in the natural erect posture, the head hardly below the surface. (Cooper's Annals of the New York Lyceum.) Near Baltimore, at Fort McHenry, in digging a well in the Star Fort, in a stratum of marsh mud, nearly sixty feet below the surface, under a layer of diluvium. (Hayden's Geol. Essays.) Remains of Mastodon abound at the Salines (Licks) of Great Osage river to as great an extent, it is said, as at Big Bone Lick, or around the Wallkill.—(Godman.)

"*Megatherium.* Fragments of at least two skeletons in recent marsh, Skidaway Island, Georgia.—(Cooper.)

"*Megalonyx.* A fragment of an arm or thigh bone, a complete radius, an ulna, three phalangal claw-bones, and some bones of the feet, found about thirty feet below the surface of the floor of a cavern in Green Briar county, Virginia, (Godman.) Big Bone Lick has furnished a large humerus, a metacarpal bone, a right lower maxillary bone with four teeth, a detached molar tooth in good preservation, a clavicle, a tibia of the right side. (Cooper.) Megalonyx bones have also been found in White Cave, Kentucky.

"It will be observed that we have authentic accounts of the remains of extinct Mammalia under two entirely dissimilar situations. In one case, as in the Mastodon tooth discovered near Baltimore, the fossil occurs in an ancient bog, covered by a thick bed of sand and diluvian.—This is one of the deposites which I have called ancient alluvian, and which seems to belong to some era of the tertiary period, but what precise epoch is at present quite uncertain. Another set, apparently consisting of the very same species, occurs in the most recent class of bogs and marshes, buried to a very slight depth beneath the surface. The latter is the situation in which by far the largest

number of Mastodon, Elephant and other bones have been found. These newer bogs or marshes are in no case seen to be covered by any diluvial matter but appear, on the contrary, from their low level and their wet state, being often traversed by streams, to have experienced little or no change since the fossil relics were originally entombed in them. In the regions beyond the Alleghanies, most of these remains occur in spots which are called Salt Licks; these are meadows and swampy grounds where the soil on the surface of the ground is impregnated with muriate of soda, from the springs which empty themselves from the muriatiferous sand-stones which abound in the Western States. Big Bone Lick, in Kentucky, is an example of one of these.—Here have been found not only vast numbers of the fossil bones of the extinct races, but quantities almost as great of the Buffalo, besides, many of two or three species of Deer, now, like the Buffalo, indigenous to the country. This, therefore, would appear to have been resorted to not only in modern times by the living races, but more anciently by animals now extinct, for the salt, and it may be for the food and pleasant coolness produced by the marsh. Our travellers to the Western regions, where the Buffaloes or Bison now ranges, have daily opportunities of witnessing these animals entrapped and perishing in these licks and swamps; and it seems evident that the Mastodon and Elephant of former times, from their huge size and unwieldy forms, must have been equally exposed to the same fate.—Granting such to have been the chief cause which has buried these races, we see at once why such remains are found only in meadows or soft places, why they occur at such small depths, and why in so many cases the head has been seen resting nearly on the surface of the marsh; the cranium universally decayed, and the skeleton either in its natural erect position, or the ponderous bones below, and the ribs and vetebræ above." (See Annals of the New York Lyceum, Vol. 1, page 145, also Ossemen's Fossils, 2nd edit., tom. 1, pages 217, 222.)

"The state of perfect preservation in which so many of these bones are found, is another argument that the animals have perished by such a cause and not by any violent catastrophe. There is at present in the Philadelphia Museum, a pair of magnificient tusks of the Mastodon, so little acted on by time, that the beholder almost fancies he sees the marks and scratches on the enamel which it received in the living state. These beautiful remains were found by a countryman in Ohio, when digging an ordinary ditch in his meadow, so that it is probable that the rest of the skeleton lies near, and at very little depth. From all the facts before me, I have little hesitation in giving my opinion that the extinct gigantic animals of this continent; the Mastodon, Elephant, Megalonyx, Megatherium, fossil Bos and fossil Cervus lived down to a comparatively recent period, and that some of them were in existence as long ago as the era anterior to that which covered the greatest part of this continent with diluvium."—From *Encyclopedia of Geography*, by Murry, published A. D. 1853, Vol. 8, pages 377 to 379.

THE HORSE FOUND FOSSIL.

"*The Horse* not originally imported into America from the East. It is well known to our readers that Prof. Holmes, of the College of Charleston, has been for many years engaged in exploring the fossil beds of Ashley river. A large number of interesting relics have been collected, and the ravans of Europe and America have expressed their great satisfaction at the results of these explorations. Professor Agassiz, in a lecture some time since, just after a visit to the Ashley with Professor Holmes, said, "it was the greatest depository of fossil remains he had ever seen." Professor Tuomy called it "the great horse sepulchre of America," and now Professor Leidy, the distinguished American Anatomist, has prepared a valuable paper on the remains of the horse and other animals, found fossil on the Ashley, which had been placed in his hands for examination by Professor Holmes; and it will

appear, from the short extract we make, that the investigations now being made in this department of natural science, are developing some curious things.—Professor Leidy writes: "In regard to the remains of the horse, from the facts stated in the accounts given of them in the succeeding pages, I think it will be conceded that this animal inhabited the United States during the post pliocene period, (after the flood,) contemporary with the mastodon, megalonyx, and the great broad-fronted bison."—Charleston Mercury, Jan. 14th, 1858.

The fact that a great variety of animals once existed upon the American Continent, that have since become extinct, is demonstrated by incontrovertible evidence. And as there were sufficient causes to destroy the Elephant, Mastodon, Megalonyx, horse, and other varieties, whose bones have been found upon American soil, in great abundance, which affords sufficient evidence to conclude that under similar circumstances, the cow, goat and other domestic animals, spoken of in the Book of Mormon might also have been obliterated.

The foregoing history of the extinct races of animals, that have been found in their fossil remains, in so great abundance gives full proof that those animals described in the Book of Mormon, positively had an existence, and abounded in great numbers upon American soil, at some former period. And although they had become extinct prior to the discovery of America by Europeans, yet the indisputable fact of the manner and time of their actual existence warrants the statement that the Jaredites and Nephites, two distinct races of people were each successively, in their time, in possession of those identical animals as described in the Book of Mormon. The Bible says the animals were made for the use of man.—History and the Bible proves that men and animals arrived upon the American continent, shortly after the flood, and increased to great numbers. The vast abundance of American antiquities proves the early existence of civilization among the aboriginal inhabitants: and their stupendous works of art fully justifies the statement of the Book of Mormon, that some of those animals were domesticated and brought into service by the aboriginal inhabitants of America: hence the whole chain of facts, with all the connecting circumstances, confirms the Book of Mormon to be a true record, which says the primitive inhabitants of America, had "all manner of cattle, of oxen, and cows, and of sheep, and of swine, and of goats, and also many other kind of animals, which were useful for the food of man: and they also had horses, and asses, and there were elephants and cureloms and cumoms: all of which were useful unto man, and more especially the elephants and cureloms and cumoms."—Book of Mormon, in the Book of Ether, 4th chapter, 3d par.

SECTION TWENTY-THREE.

The primitive use of the Metals:

That the aboriginal inhabitants of America at an early period understood the use of the metals, and the art of manufacturing edged tools from iron and steel, and the compound of copper and tin, will appear evidently true, from a collection of well established facts, selected with care, from the most reliable authors, and presented as follows:

"Baron Humbolt informs us, in his researches in South America, that when he crossed the Cordillera mountains, by the way of Panama and Assuay, and viewed the enormus masses of stone cut from the porphyry quarries of Pullal, which was employed in constructing the ancient highroads of the Incas, that he began to doubt whether the Peruvians were acquainted with other tools than hatchets made of flint and stone. On which account he adopted a new opinion, contrary to those generally received. He conjectured that they must have had tools made of copper hardened with tin, such as it is known the early nations of Asia made use of. This conjecture was fully sustained by the discovery of an ancient Peruvian mining chisel, in a silver mine at Vilcabamba, which had been worked

in the time of Incas. This instrument of copper was four inches long, and three-fourths of an inch wide; which he carried with him to Europe, where he had it analyzed, and found it to contain ninety-four parts of copper and six of tin. He says that this keen copper of the Peruvians is almost identically the same with that of the Gallic axe, which cut wood nearly as well as if made of iron and steel."—American Antiquities, page 186.

In Onondaga county, New York, "In ploughing the earth, digging wells, canals, or excavating for salt waters, about the lakes, new discoveries are frequently made, which as clearly show the operations of ancient civilization here, as the works of the present race would do, were they left to the operations of time for five or six hundred years, especially were this country to be totally overrun by the whole consolidated savage tribes of the West, exterminating both the worker and his works, as appears to have been done in ages past. In Scipio, on Salmon creek, a Mr. Halsted has, from time to time during ten years past, ploughed up on a certain extent of land on his farm, seven or eight hundred pounds of brass, which appeared to have once been formed into various implements both of husbandry and war; helmets and working utensils mingle together. The finder of this brass, we are informed, from time to time as he discovered it by ploughing, carried it to Auburn, and sold it by the pound, where it was worked up with as little curiosity attending it as though it had been but an ordinary article of the country's produce. On this field where it was found the forest timber was growing as abundantly, and had attained to as great age and size as elsewhere in the heavy timbered country of the lakes. In the same field was also found much wrought iron, which furnished Mr. Halstead with sufficiency to shoe his horses for several years. Hatchets of iron were also found there, formed in the manner the ancient Swiss or German hatchet or small axes is formed."—American Antiquities, pages 253 and 254.

On page 252, of this same work, the author gives an account of the remains of a blacksmith's forge being found; and near the same place were "ploughed up crucibles, such as mineralogists use in refining metals." Also on page 255 an account is given of, "anvils of iron" having been found in the same vicinity with the other discoveries. And on page 253, it is stated that in opening some of the mounds of those ancient people, "there have been found very well manufactured swords and knives of iron, and possibly steel, says Mr. Atwater." And again, on page 256, the author says: "A vast many instances of articles made of copper and sometimes plated with silver, have been met with on opening their works (of tumuli) circular pieces of copper, intended either as medals or breast plates, have been found, several inches in diameter, very much injured by time. In several tumuli, the remains of knives and even swords, in the form of rust have been discovered." The Nephites, according to the Book of Mormon, in some instances buried their swords. "And all the people were assembled together, they took their swords and all the weapons which were used for the shedding of man's blood, and they did bury them up deep in the earth." See Book of Alma, 14th chapter, 7th par. This shows that the Nephites used swords, and that as they buried them according to the above related instance, so they might have done in many others. But it is certainly clear that the natives at some period had a knowledge of the use of iron, from the fact of those antique remains of swords, and it is highly probable they were of steel. On page 177 of the *American Antiquities*, the author says, that "in Virginia, near Blacksburgh, eighty miles from Marietta, there was found the half of a steel bow, which, when entire, would measure five or six feet: the other part was corroded or broken." Iron and steel were known to the Eastern nations many centuries before Lehi left Jerusalem, mention is made of the steel bow, by David in the 18th Psalm, 34th verse, 500

years before Lehi and Nephi emigrated to the Western Continent, and also long before David's day; mention is made of the steel bow in Job 20th chapter, 24th verse. Lehi makes mention, in the Book of Mormon, of a bow that he brought out of Jerusalem, "which was made of fine steel."—First book of Nephi, chapter 5, par. 3. And, also, Nephi makes mention of a sword that he brought with him that was made of steel.—First book of Nephi, chapter 1, par. 23.

The following will show the use of the metals and a knowledge of mining by the natives:

"From the American Journal of Sciences and the Arts, we have a highly interesting description of the gold districts in Georgia and North Carolina, extending West, even to the State of Tennessee. In this Journal, gold is treated on as being extremely abundant, and from the situation of the veins, is far more eligible to the operations of the miner, than the gold mine of South America. Gold is found connected with various formations of slate, with red clay, and in the bottoms of streams, mingled with the sand and gravel. It is found with the heavy gravelly earth of the mountains, but most of all in the kind of rock called quarts. In North Carolina, on Valley river, gold is found in abundance connected with quartz rock, which also abounds with crystal, running in veins in every direction, in tissues from the size of a straw to that of a man's arm. The quartz is in great masses, very compact, and of a yellow golden hue, from the abundant presence of the metal. In the bottom of this river much deposited gold is found in strata. It would appear, from the evidences yet remaining, that the ancient inhabitants were not insensible to the existence of the golden mines here, nor, of course, of its value; for, in the vicinity were found the remains of ancient many shafts have been sunk by them in pursuit of the ore, and judging from the masses thrown up, one of them; penetrated a quartz rock to a great depth, as about thirty feet still lies open to view. There is also a deep and difficult cut across a very bold vein of this rock, in pursuit of this metal, but it is now much filled up, having been used subsequently for an Indian burying ground. At this place, says the Journal, nothing short of the steel pick-ax, could have left the traces on the stone which are found here. Not far from this place, have been found the remains of a small furnace, the walls of which had been formed of soap-stone, so as to endure the heat without being fractured. In the county of Habersham, in Georgia, was lately dug out of the earth, at a place where the gold ore is found, a small vessel in the form of a skillet. It was fifteen feet under ground, made of a compound of tin and copper, with a trace of iron. The copper and tin in its composition, are undoubtedly the evidence of its antiquity. Crucibles of earthern ware, and far better than those now in use, are frequently found by the miners. By actual experiment they are found to endure the heat three times as long as the Hessian crucibles, which are the best now in use. Bits of machinery, such as are necessary in elevating the ore from the depths, as used by the ancient nations, are also frequently found in the earth where those mines exist, which clearly shows those ancients acquainted with the minerals. On the top of Yeona Mountain, in the same region, still exists the remains of a stone wall, which exhibit the angles of a fortification and guard the only accessible points of ascent to its summit. Timber in the Cherokee country, bearing the marks of the ax, (not of stone,) have been taken up at the depth of ten feet below the surface. Indian tradition, says Mr. Silliman, gives no account of these remains."—American Antiquities, pages 390 to 392.

Mention is made by the first Spanish visitors to the New World of the discovery of utensils made of copper used by the Indians, such as hatchets and knives, and also there were several copper instruments found resembling chisels. See Stephen's *Incidents of Travel in Yucatan*, Vol. 1, page 408.

There are numerous instances of such like discoveries of metalic instruments, too tedious to mention, that have been found at different times and places among the antiquated ruins of the country; but a sufficient amount has been presented to prove the fact, that the aborginal inhabitants of America, at an early period, understood the art of working in the metals, and employed their service in constructing all their edifices, of towers, temples, and monuments; and also roads and aqueducts. But it is quite likely that some objections will be raised against the conclusion that those ancient stone edifices and other works of solid masonry were constructed with the use of tools made of iron and steel, simply because there were no iron crowbars, nor steel pick-axes and chisels found among their ruins; for indeed some have already on that very account concluded that iron was never known at any period to the natives, and consequently make it as an objection to the Book of Mormon; but this supposition vanishes when brought to the light of truth. All experience proves that iron exposed to dampness in time will decompose. A certain author says: "Long experience proves that gold, silver and copper, when wrought, whether exposed to the open air or buried beneath the surface of the earth, will remain for many ages in an uncorroded state; but this is not the case with iron, which from its nature is exposed to the attacks of rust and moisture, which in time effects its entire decomposition."—Wilson's *Conquest of Mexico*, page 200. It is just as probable that the article of iron disappeared from some of those ancient cities of America, after there desolation as it surely did from those ruined cities of the Eastern world. For it is a well known fact that no antique remains of iron tools have been found by modern travellers among the ruins of ancient, Thebes, Nineveh, Babylon and Jerusalem, which is evidence that the article of iron disappeared from those ancient cities subsequently to their depopulation. For there is an abundance of testimony showing that at the time of the building of those cities, iron and steel was well known and extensively used by many of the civilized nations of that age; as will be seen from the following: "Mention is made in Deuteronomy, 3d chapter, 11th verse, concerning Og, King of Bashan, who used an iron bedstead, nine cubits in length, and four cubits in breadth.—Og, King of Bashan, was defeated by the Hebrews under Joshua, about 1505 years before Christ. Iron and steel are both made mention of by Job, above 1500 years before Christ, "He shall flee from the iron weapon, and the bow of steel shall strike him through."—Job, 20, 24. The supposition that steel was only known to the ancients in the compound of tin and copper is without foundation.

Mr. Robbins, in his "*History of the World*," says: "The invention of steel is of very great antiquity, * * that it was known to the Greeks, in the time of Homer, and received from them several names, the most common of which was Stomoma. Chalybes, was also a name given to steel, from the Chalybes, a people inhabiting the Southern shore of the Euxine, between Cholcis and Paphlagonia, a country which was renowned for its works of iron and steel."—*World Displayed*, Vol. 1, page 218.

The above refers back to an age when steel was known to be manufactured from iron in the days of Homer, who flourished about 900 years before Christ.—*World Displayed*, Vol. 1, page 49. This establishes the fact that steel was known among the Greeks above 800 years before Nephi came to America with a few families of Israelites; Lycurgus, who flourished 884 years before Christ, wishing, seemingly, to improve the condition of Sparata, one of the principal States of the Grecian Empire. Wherefore, Lycurgus, apparently aiming to humble the rich and elevate the poor; as in the language of the historian, which says: "He substituted iron for gold and silver as the medium of exchange. As this iron money was of no account among the neighboring countries, the Spartans could no longer indulge in

luxury, by purchasing foreign costly articles."—*World Displayed*, Vol. 1. page 51

From the circumstances of the iron money established by Lycurgus, it appears that there was an abundance of iron among the civilized nations in that age of the world. The article of iron was known at a very early age of the world; almost from the first accounts of civilization, it was known to the ancient Egyptians and Phenicians, it is also spoken of quite a number of times in the Books of Moses. Tubal Cain was, "an instructor of every artificer in brass and iron," before the flood, Gen. 4, 22.

Hence, it is highly probable that the antediluvian blacksmiths understood the art of making steel from iron, which is less difficult than the compounding of copper and tin and tempering it for edged tools. It is certainly very probable that the knowledge of working in the metals has always continued with civilization, and descended from Tubal Cain, through the family of Noah down to all the civilized nations of the earth. Wherein it is evidently clear that iron and steel, and the knowledge of working in the metals was extensively known to the people of the Eastern Continent long before Lehi and Nephi came to America. And hence from a collection of known facts, it is clearly established that the knowledge of working in iron and steel and many of the other metals was well known to the oboriginal inhabitants of America; during that period of their civilization, which goes far to sustain the claim that is set forth in the Book of Mormon, concerning the several families of Israelites; which emigrated to America nearly 600 years before Christ, by Lehi and Nephi, who were scholars, architects and artists, as is described in the language of Nephi, which says: "And it came to pass that we began to prosper exceedingly, and to multiply in the land. And I, Nephi, did take the sword of Saban, and after the manner of it did make many swords, lest by any means the people who were now called Lamanites should come upon us and destroy us; for I knew their hatred towards me and my children, and those who were called my people. And I did teach my people to build buildings; and to work in all manner of wood, and of iron, and of copper, and of brass, and of steel, and of gold, and of silver, and of precious ores, which were in great abundance. And I, Nephi, did build a temple; and I did construct it after the manner of the temple of Solomon, save it were not built of so many precious things; for they were not to be found upon the land; wherefore, it could not be built like unto Solomon's Temple. But the manner of the construction was like unto the temple of Solomon; and the workmanship thereof was exceeding fine."—Second Book of Nephi, 4th chapter, 8d par.

Among the American antiquities, there are found many corroborating facts in support of the foregoing quotation from the Book of Mormon. The following accounts are very confirming: "The monuments of the first or primitive race," said the late William Wirt, "are regular stone walls, wells stoned up, brick hearths, found in digging the Louisville canal, medals of copper, silver, swords, and other implements of iron. Mr. Flint assures us that he has seen these strange ancient swords. He has also examined a small iron shoe like a horse-shoe, incrusted with the rust of ages, and found far below the soil, and a copper axe weighing about two pounds, singularly tempered and of peculiar construction."—Mayer's Mexico, page 256.

With these state of facts showing beyond all possibility of doubt that the aboriginal inhabitants possessed the art of working in iron and steel, and also being in possession of those serviceable animals, then native to the country as before described. It is easy to perceive the facilities with which they were prepared for constructing those wonderful works of art, which are found in the ancient ruins, scattered profusely over the vast extent of country both North and South America; which

most learned authors on the subject of American Antiquities, have acknowledged in their researches that the origin of the aboriginal inhabitants of America is beyond their reach of discovery. Such as Messrs. Stephens, Schoolcraft, Mayers, Goodrich, Brownell and many others, have all concurred that it is a great mystery, as to how the primitive races of men arrived here, and who they were is unanswerable. Although Mr. Catlin entertained different views in some respects he labored to show they were of the ten lost tribes of Israel, but could not determine how nor when they arrived to this country, he leaves the subject ending in entire supposition, although he found many Jewish resemblances among the native Americans, showing that they were of Jewish descent; but that they were of the ten lost tribes, he presented no definite accounts. Mr. Wilson's history of the Conquest of Mexico, contains some important information. Though he shot his sharp criticisms at several authors against their exaggerations, and the undue credit attached to the Spanish accounts given of the Indian manuscripts, and of the Cortez war and conquerors of Mexico, which may be all well enough, as justly deserving. But while Mr. Wilson seems to cut off extremes on the one hand, he also appears to unite with others equally untenable; he gives too much credit himself to unwarranted traditions in many instances, especially such as the fabulous account of the great Island of Atlantis, while other modern historians all concur in showing very good reasons for rejecting a part of it at least. Mr. Wilson in his efforts to account for the origin of the aborigines to this country, has placed great emphasis on what he called the "Pillars of Hercules" and other memorial works of art, both in sculpture and architecture as found among the ancient works of American Antiquities, which he has supposed so much resembles the ancient Phoenician and Egyptian style of art; and hence because the Phoenicians were a more mercantile people than the Egyptians, but prospered co-temporary with them and derived their arts from them, therefore, Mr. Wilson has ascribed a Phoenician origin for the architecture of the ruined cities in Central America; because of the resemblance to the Egyptian antiquities, he has labored to show that the Phoenicians former derived their style of arts from the Egyptians, but subsequently when they became a great commercial people, America was colonized by the Phoenicians; and in this way he accounts for the American Antiquities resembling the Phoenician and Egyptian style of architecture and ancient engravings. But the *key* of interpreting hieroglyphic characters derived from the rosetta stone (found in 1797 near the Delta in Egypt,) will not interpret the engraved characters called hieroglyphics found on the tablets deposited in the buildings of the same architecture of American Antiquities, that Mr. Wilson and others have concluded so much resemble the ancient Egyptian characters, which have attracted the attention of all travelers that have visited the ruined cities of Central America.—And although the Rosetta interpreters, will accurately decipher the Egyptian hieroglyphics and Ancient Phoenician characters and all the Asiatic and European symbols; but will not interpret American hieroglyphics which are said so much resemble the Phoenician and Egyptian characters that they are often called by the same name. This fact that the American hieroglyphics cannot be read by the key that interprets the Egyptian hieroglyphics, which resembles the American characters, is certainly a very strange mystery and must be very perplexing to the Phoenician theory of Mr. Wilson's, in rightly accounting for the origin of the primitive races of men in this country; in fact let the historian turn which way he will the knot is tied across his path that never can be cut except by the Book of Mormon, which explains the whole mystery. This important book says the Nephites, when they migrated to this country nearly 600 years before Christ, understood both the Hebrew and

Egyptian languages and wrote their records in Egyptian characters by engraving on metallic plates by which their history and origin were preserved. But eventually they so altered the Egyptian characters that no other people could read them, calling them the "reformed Egyptian."—See Book of Mormon, First Book of Nephi 1st chapter, 1st par.; also Book of Mormon 4th chapter, 8th par. Whatever language those engraved tablets found in Central America may contain, whether they are written in the Nephite "reformed Egyptian" or not, yet one thing is certain no one of the European race has ever read them, which is a strange incident in this advanced age of the world; especially when taken into consideration the fact, that those who understand the key of ancient languages as brought to light by the Rosetta stone may travel through the Old World among the monuments and tombs of ancient Egypt and Phoenicia and read all their inscriptions as accurately as in a familiar language; which shows most conclusively that if there is truly any similarity of the hieroglyphical characters of Central America sufficient to warrant them to be of Egyptian origin, and yet cannot now be read by the Rosetta key of languages; then most certainly they have been altered as the Book of Mormon says concerning the Nephite records as follows: "And now behold, we have written this record according to our knowledge in the characters, which are called among us the reformed Egyptian, being handed down and altered by us, according to our manner of speech."—See Book of Mormon in the Book of Mormon, 4th chapter, 8th par. This shows that the Nephites wrote their records in what they called the "reformed Egyptian" characters as being altered among themselves, and fully explains the reason why the American hieroglyphics cannot now be read by any known key of the interpretation of languages.

This subject will be treated on more fully in a subsequent number.

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This supposed system of trade and commerce is set forth as being indispensable to the support of his wild theory.—Upon reflection on this subject the question naturally arises, if the people of America at so early a period as 3,000 years ago held commerce across the great ocean with the nations of the Eastern World, what did they trade in? What were the staples of market? And what were the commodities of exchange? But bear witness to the greatness of a once mighty but fallen people. The history of which will be more fully presented in this work, which will be found in accordance with the predictions of the Bible, and according to the history of that people given in the Book of Mormon called Nephites and Lamanites.

After I had written the foregoing on the subject of iron and steel, being once known to the native inhabitants of America; a friend placed into my hands a work entitled the "United States Naval Astronomical Expedition," which furnishes an article too important to be omitted on this subject, written by Lieutenant J. M. Gillis, in A. D. 1855, who says as follows: "That iron was employed in remote times in America, may eventually be established. At the advent of Manco Capac the Peruvians are represented in the lowest depths of barbarism. Their improvement began with him and continued under his successors to the arrival of the Spaniards. During that period it is conceded that tools of iron were not used, and yet structures of massive cut stones, weighing several tons each, it is

said, were then erected, and the stones so accurately jointed that not the point of a penknife can find entrance. The question naturally arises, with what material were they cut? It has been said with tempered copper. When we ask how that metal was made sufficiently hard, and at the same time retain other essential properties of a granite-cutting implement, we are told the art has been lost! In thus cutting a knot of their own tying, writers have unnecessarily perplexed themselves and their readers, and without perceiving the contradiction involved. Applied to Americans because they had no iron; the dictum has been offered to account for similar sculptures of the Egyptians who had *steel*, and who had constant intercourse with the oldest city of the earth—or one of the oldest—and memorable for its fabrication of swords that without injury to their edges could chop iron bolts in two. It is more reasonable to infer that the old dressed granite buildings of Central America and Peru date from times anterior to those of the Incas—times in which iron was known. The comparative freshness of such remains presents no difficulty. The advent of Manco Capac is carried back to the twelfth century—only seven hundred years—while architectural and other antiquities equally fresh and extant, in Europe and the East, and are known to be from two to three thousand years old. That there was a previous epoch of civilization in Peru has always been confirmed by traditions of the natives relating to ancient structures. Ignorant of the origin of these, they did exactly what people of the Old World did under similar circumstances—Garcilasso himself refers them to a people who had iron. There is one page of his work bearing on the subject of special interest, and the more so since ancient monolithic structures in Peru are no longer a question. They are yet extant. Mayta Capac, the fourth Inca, subdued the Indians of Tiahuanaco.—"Amongst the mighty works and buildings of that country, there is a certain hill or heap of earth thrown up by hand, which is so high that it is a subject of great admiration; and, lest with time it should settle or sink lower, it is founded on great stones, cemented together; and to what end this was done no man can conjecture, unless it were, like the pyramids, in Egypt, to remain for a trophy of the greatness of that monarch who erected it. On one side of this mighty heap are the statues of two giants, cut in stone, with long robes to the ground, and wreaths or binders about their heads, which being much impaired by time, shows the antiquity of them. There is also a strange wall to be seen raised with stones of an extraordinary bigness: and what is most wonderful to consider is, how or in what manner they were brought thither by force of men who had not yet attained to the knowledge of engines fit for such a work; and from what place they were brought, there being no rocks or quarries but such as are at a far distance from thence. There appear also many great and lofty edefices: and what is more strange, there are in divers places portals of stone, and many of them whole and perfect, *made of one single and entire stone*, which, being raised on pedestals, are found by those who have measured them to be thirty feet in length and fifteen feet in breadth, which pedestals, as well as the arches of the portals, were all of one single stone; and then we may consider how great those stones were before they were shaped, and what *tools of iron* were requisite for such a labor. * *

"That such tools have not been found, is no proof against their early use in Peru, any more than in Egypt and other lands. Lead, tin, bronze, and copper, silver and gold, have been preserved from one to two thousand years in soils that dissolve *iron* in a century or two."—U. S. Naval Astronomical Expedition, Vol. 2, page 145 to 150.

The foregoing statements on the subject of the primitive use of the metals clearly establishes the fact beyond all possibility of doubt, that the articles of iron and steel were both well known at

an early period to the aboriginal inhabitants of America, which is in accordance with the claims of the Book of Mormon, and therefore can no longer be brought as an objection against that book, but by the ignorant and misinformed, who have often with a pretended show of their learning ridiculed in a very sneering manner the statement given in the Book of Mormon, concerning the art of working in the metals as being had at an early period by the aboriginal inhabitants of America. Wherefore, it was deemed requisite that a collection of historical facts should be presented on this subject taken from the antiquities of America; which proves the accounts given in the Book of Mormon to be identically with the facts of American history, which clearly refutes every objection on this subject offered against the Book of Mormon, by the ignorant and unlearned, and successfully establishes the claim for the Book of Morman to be of divine origin, sustained upon scientific principles.

SECTION TWENTY-FOUR.

Aborigines of America.

Many attempts have been made by historians and naturalists, both, before and since the coming forth of the Book of Mormon, to discover the origin of the aboriginal races of men upon the Western Continent. Various conjectures have been offered, by different authors, but no position has been sustained, with confirming testimony; wherefore, upon a thorough investigation it will be seen that without an appeal to the Book of Mormon all begins with mystery, and ends in doubt and uncertainty. The no clew to any satisfactory information is given concerning what were included in those commodities of exchange. It is self evident from all past experience that any people dependent, in any degree, upon a commercial interest, must necessarially derive their benefit from some system of exportation, and what could they export but their own domestic productions. And as Mr. Wilson, in substance, has said on pages 147, and 168—that a term of 500 years of American commerce with the Eastern nations could only account for the prosperity of Central America in the building up of her splendid cities, which long since have

(To be continued.)

THE SECOND VOLUME of the Truth Teller will be published in this city, Independence, Mo.

NOTICES.

☞ The Editorial Correspondence will be addressed to GRANVILLE HEDRICK, Washburne, Illinois.

The character of the Truth Teller is sufficiently represented in the previous volume. The first numbers of the second volume will be chiefly devoted to the proof of the book of Mormon, until that subject is completed. SUBSCRIBERS are hereby solicited. FIFTY cents accompanying their plain address will secure the first six numbers; but will be discontinued to all others.

SAMUEL HOCKIN, Agent.

All correspondence and remittances for the Truth Teller, must be addressed to Samuel Hockin, Independence, Mo. P. O. Box, 114.

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